

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Health Professions Quality Assurance
Board of Massage
MEETING MINUTES for June 23, 2002

BOARD MEMBERS: **Anni Langsam**, Public Member, Chair; **Morgan Caley**, LMP, Vice Chair; **Ted Hulbert**, LMP; **Rosemary Foster**, LMP; **Karin Olsen**, LMP

PROGRAM STAFF: **Kirby Putscher**, Program Manager; **Rob Darling**, Administrative Assistant; **Chris Swanson**, Assistant Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT: Bob Haase, Bodymechanics School; Barbara Sterritt, Port Townsend School of Massage; Dawn M. Schmidt, Brenneke School of Massage; Jim Schmidt, Bellevue School of Massage; Juli Peters, Cedar Mountain Center for Massage; Teri Zelepuza, Ashmead College

Sunday, June 23, 2002 – 9:00 a.m. - OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without change.

1.2 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 5, 2002 meeting were approved as written.

CLOSED SESSION – 9:15 a.m.

2. JURISDICTION AND SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEW

Reviewing members presented ten program applications to the board for their review and consideration. The board approved two massage program applications.

Staff will be sending deficiency letters to the other programs requesting additional information.

3. SITE REVIEWS

No site reviews were completed during this time period.

4. SCHOOL ACCREDITATION AUDITS

Reviewing members presented one program application to the board for their review and consideration. Staff will be sending a deficiency to the program requesting additional information.

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OPEN SESSION – 9:45 a.m.

5. NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION FOR THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE AND BODYWORK (NCETMB)

An update was provided to the board regarding changes in the administration of the NCETMB for Washington State massage practitioner licensure candidates. To date, the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) has not responded to our formal request that NCBTMB allow applicants from Washington to take the examination without having to become nationally certified.

The board continues to have concerns regarding the legality of requiring Washington candidates to be nationally certified as a condition of licensure; and, the candidates are required to sign a document stating they will abide by the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice as outlined in the application which are over and above what the massage statute requires.

Several alternatives were discussed, including, develop and administer our own exam; contract with approved massage schools/programs to administer exams; seek a waiver from NCBTMB for national certification requirement; and, incorporate national certification as a requirement into the current massage statute.

Following thorough discussion of the issues and possible alternatives, the following motion passed unanimously by the board.

“Effective July 25, 2002 the Washington State Board of Massage will implement a one year pilot program to accept the examination processes utilized by the Washington State Approved Massage Programs, Schools and Apprenticeship Programs as the interim examination for massage practitioner licensure in Washington State.”

During the pilot program applicants who have successfully completed a Washington State Board of Massage approved massage program, school or apprenticeship program will not be required to take the National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCETMB) as a requirement for licensure; however, we will continue to accept the NCETMB for licensure purposes.

During the next several weeks, the board will be developing criteria for the pilot program and information will be provided to all Washington approved massage programs, schools and apprenticeship programs once they have been finalized.

Over the course of the next year, the department and the board will continue to gather information regarding feasible options for future examination requirements in Washington.

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6. ADJOURNMENT

They're being no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Rob Darling, Administrative Asst.

Anne Langsam, Board Chair